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LICHFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

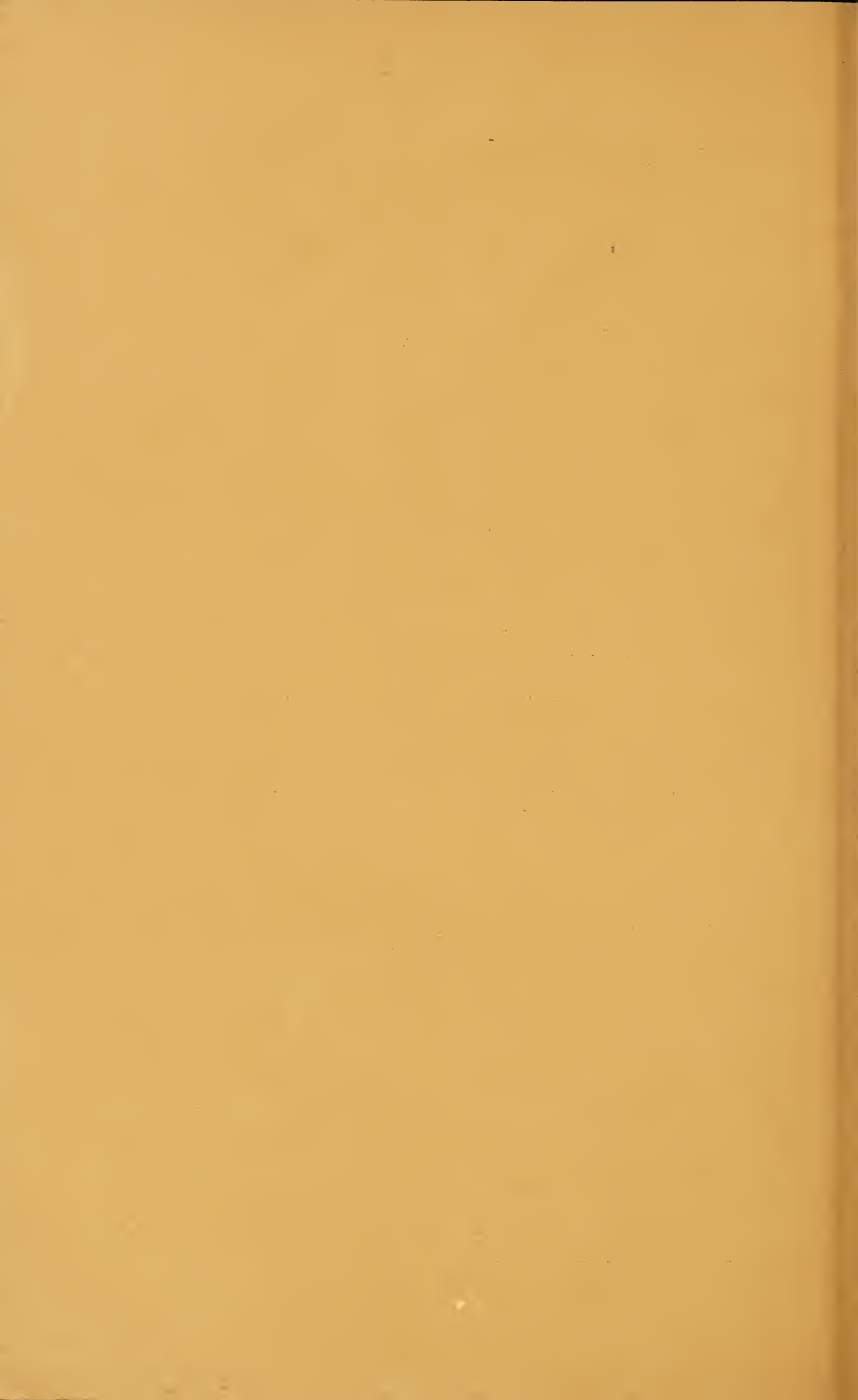
TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1959

C. E. JAMISON, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.



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Medical Officer of Health :

C. E. JAMISON, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector :

GEORGE LEEDER, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

WILLIAM E. SHAW, M.A.P.H.I.

J. B. DUCKWORTH, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector :

F. G. PALMER

LICHFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
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1959

*To the Chairman and Members,
Lichfield Rural District Council.*

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the health of the District and on the work of the Health Department during 1959.

The vital statistics of the District are set out in the same form as last year, and again make a satisfactory picture, whether compared with those of the District for previous years or with those of the country as a whole during 1959.

The incidence of infectious diseases was again low, apart from some increase in the figures relating to bacillary dysentery, due to an institutional outbreak of that infection, and apart also from a slight increase in the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. Reference is made in the text to the effect of various inoculations in reducing the incidence of certain diseases.

Factors influencing the progress of the Council's slum clearance programme are set out in some detail, as it was felt that this would be helpful in assessing the position reached and expectation of future progress. It will be seen that the picture shown is now more hopeful than that recorded in my report for 1958.

The Council's programme for improvements in the sewerage of villages and improved arrangements for sewage disposal also now seems to be heading towards a period of more rapid progress, as relaxation of the strict governmental control exercised a few years ago enables work to be tackled in a more methodical way, taking advantage of preliminary work carried out a number of years ago, before capital expenditure was severely restricted.

Preparations were made during the year for implementation of the new standards now required for slaughterhouse premises. Details of the present position are contained in the Senior Public Health Inspector's report.

The staff of the Department again remained unchanged. I would take this opportunity of thanking Members and Officers of the Council for their continued co-operation in the work of the Department.

C. E. JAMISON,
Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1960.

GENERAL STATISTICS

The usual information regarding the area, population, number of inhabited houses, total rateable value of all property subject to rates and the product of a penny rate are set out below in the same form as in previous years :—

Area (in acres)	84,715
Population (as estimated by Registrar General)	39,500
Number of Inhabited Houses	11,020
Total Rateable Value	£401,178
Net product of a Penny Rate	£1,601

The area was, of course, again unchanged. After reductions in population in recent years, due to the movement of service personnel, the population showed a moderate increase. The number of inhabited houses, total rateable value of property and the net product of a penny rate all showed similar increases to those of recent years.

VITAL STATISTICS

The principal statistics are given below under the same headings as in earlier years :—

Live Births—	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	311	288	599
Illegitimate	9	11	20
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	320	299	619
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population ...	...	15·7	

Still Births—	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	12	4	16
Illegitimate	0	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	12	5	17
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Births ...	...	26·7	

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
... ..	245	205	450
Death Rate per 1,000 Population ...	11·4		

Deaths in Infants under Four Weeks of Age	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	5	3	8
Neonatal Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births ...	...	12·9	

Deaths in Infants under One Year of Age...					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	4	10
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Total					6	4	10

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births ... 16.1

It will be seen that, taking live and still births together, one birth in 30 was an illegitimate one. The proportion is exactly the same as in the previous year, and compares with one birth in 22 in 1957 and one birth in 28 in 1956.

The figures are too small for the differences between the still birth rates in legitimate and illegitimate children to be of any statistical significance.

The following table shows how the various figures for 1959 compare with those for the preceding seven years :—

Year	Estimated Population	Live Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Neonatal Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	Death Rate
1952	41,970	14.4	18.1	18.2	33.1	7.7
1953	43,180	13.5	15.2	18.9	22.3	8.3
1954	42,580	13.6	13.7	26.0	25.9	10.3
1955	42,580	12.7	27.1	9.3	18.6	10.9
1956	41,250	14.3	23.2	22.0	27.1	10.9
1957	40,100	15.7	14.0	26.8	31.5	10.5
1958	38,850	15.4	22.8	13.4	23.4	10.3
1959	39,500	15.7	26.7	12.9	16.1	11.4

The least satisfactory aspect of the figures is the slight increase in the proportion of conceptions which end in still births rather than in live births. On the other hand, the neonatal and infant death rates show satisfactory reductions on previous years. The slight increase in the death rate shows some reversal of the tendency in recent years.

After adjustment of the local figures, where necessary, to allow for variations in age and sex distributions as compared with the population of England and Wales as a whole, the comparable figures are set out in the following table :—

Place	Live Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Neonatal Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	Death Rate
LICHFIELD R.D.	15.7	26.7	12.9	16.1	10.1
England and Wales	16.5	20.7	15.6	22.0	11.6

Compared in this way, it becomes obvious that the birth rate was below the national average, the still birth rate rather above the average, while the various death rates were all satisfactorily below the figures for the country as a whole.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows the causes of death of persons ordinarily resident in the District who died during 1959, regardless of where the death actually occurred :—

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	1	5
Tuberculosis, other than respiratory ...	0	0	0
Syphilitic disease	1	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis... ..	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	6	14
Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus	6	2	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	25	13	38
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	28	25	53
Coronary disease and angina	49	18	67
Hypertension with heart disease	4	4	8
Other heart disease	19	42	61
Other circulatory disease	6	13	19
Influenza	7	7	14
Pneumonia	23	16	39
Bronchitis	20	4	24
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	4	3	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum... ..	1	1	2
Gastritis and diarrhoea	0	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	6	0	6
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformations	2	2	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	19	26	45
Motor vehicle accidents	4	0	4
All other accidents	4	9	13
Suicide	3	2	5
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
TOTALS ...	245	205	450

The increasing longevity of the population is shown by the fact that no fewer than 259, or 57% of deaths occurred in persons over 70 years of age. This longevity is, of course, the reason why 68 of the deaths were due to the various types of cancer, and 208 to the various types of heart and circulatory disease, both these types of disease being, of course, ones which occur predominantly in old age.

The increased mortality from respiratory tuberculosis is disappointing. Further details will be given in a later paragraph.

Deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus were less numerous than in the previous year. The disease showed, however, the usual tendency to occur more in males than in females, which is believed to be due to the difference in smoking habits of the sexes over the last generation or so. It is evident, from various surveys carried out, that propaganda against the smoking habit has not achieved any great result in the adolescent group, to which it has, for obvious reasons, been mainly directed.

Deaths from bronchitis were also slightly less numerous than in the previous year. Here again, however, the disparity between the number of deaths in males and females was very evident. This disparity is also likely to be due to the difference in the smoking habits of the sexes.

Study of details not included in the above table shows that pneumoconiosis was either the main or contributory cause of death in four males aged 77, 69, 65 and 58 years respectively. In each case the terminal feature was either cardiac failure or broncho-pneumonia.

Deaths due to motor-vehicle accidents were again less numerous than in the previous year. As also in the previous year, all the deaths occurred in adult males. Two of the victims were motorists, one a motorcyclist and the fourth a pedal-cyclist. All were involved in collision with motor vehicles.

In the case of accidents other than those caused by motor-vehicles, the picture is very different. Unfortunately, this group of deaths was much larger than in the previous year. It is noteworthy that these accidents caused more than three times as many deaths as those resulting from accidents on the roads. Two of the deaths, however, were due to traffic accidents, although not occurring on the roads, as trains were involved in each case. Another two deaths were of a particularly tragic type, girls of 11 years and 5 years respectively succumbing to burns received when their clothing became ignited, in one case by a gas fire and in the other case by an electric fire. These two accidental deaths were the only deaths from any cause which occurred in children of between one year and 15 years, which amply demonstrates where further preventive measures must now be directed. One death, occurring in an adult male, resulted from a fall which took place at his place of employment. Another death occurred in an elderly female, who suffered accidental death from coal gas poisoning. The remaining 7 deaths in this group all resulted from falls in the home. All but one occurred in females, four being over 80 years of age and one being 78 years old. The liability of such old people to such accidents of this type could not be more clearly demonstrated. The moral would appear to be the necessity for the best possible housing for persons in this age group.

Of the suicidal deaths, elderly persons were involved in two instances, middle-aged persons in another two, and a young person in the fifth instance. Deaths were due to drowning, self-inflicted wound in the neck and poisoning by aspirin, coal gas and exhaust fumes from a motor-car.

Continuing the good record of recent years, no deaths resulted from either pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

The causes of death of infants dying before the age of one year are set out below, together with particulars of the period in infancy at which the death occurred :—

Stated Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 1 year	Total Deaths under 1 year of age
Prematurity and Atelectasis	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Congenital Abnormalities...	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Other diseases ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Totals ...	6	2	—	—	8	—	2	—	—	10

As has already been stated in earlier paragraphs, the figures as a whole compare well with both those for the District in the previous year and with those for England and Wales in the same year.

It will be seen that by far the greater proportion of deaths which occurred did so before the end of the fourth week of life, and that these deaths were, almost without exception, due either to prematurity or to congenital abnormalities. It is obvious that other causes of infant mortality are now being eliminated, which throws the residual causes of mortality, more difficult to prevent, in greater contrast.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases other than tuberculosis, notified during the year, together with figures showing notifications during the previous 9 years :—

Nature of Case	Total 1950	Total 1951	Total 1952	Total 1953	Total 1954	Total 1955	Total 1956	Total 1957	Total 1958	Total 1959
Scarlet Fever ...	59	132	42	59	65	16	20	27	35	43
Whooping Cough	97	244	75	101	52	20	62	79	22	27
Measles ...	371	454	109	690	13	461	23	655	258	196
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ...	16	1	3	1	3	2	—	1	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis ...	9	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	56	102	44	59	42	19	20	17	33	69
Dysentery ...	2	123	23	2	18	23	26	6	8	23
Food Poisoning	4	76	—	6	—	—	4	10	6	3
Erysipelas ...	1	3	4	4	11	6	11	5	3	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	2
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	5	2	—	—	3	3	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified was again small. No doubt the smallness of the figure was partly due to the prevalent mildness of the disease, which may have led to many mild cases not being reported to the family doctor. The vast majority of cases were, in accordance with modern practice, treated at home. There were no deaths from the disease.

The incidence of whooping cough was again relatively low, and it is becoming increasingly evident that the reduction in recent years has been due to the immunisation campaign carried out during the last five years or so in increasing numbers of children. There have been no deaths from the disease in the district since 1954.

It will be seen that measles was, although not so prevalent as in some other recent years, quite a frequent infection. Unfortunately, there is no immunising agent suitable for long-term use yet available. There were again no deaths from the disease, a fact no doubt attributable to the efficient treatment of the complications which are the most dangerous feature of the disease.

It is pleasing to be able to record that there were no cases of poliomyelitis in the district during the year, and that this is the second successive year in which this has been the case. It is becoming fairly evident that the continued freedom from the disease can reasonably be attributed to the vaccination campaign carried out during recent years, which has been very well received by the public, although adults have not, apart from a limited period following the death from poliomyelitis of a well known footballer, taken as full advantage of the scheme as they might have done. Even those persons who besieged the clinics for poliomyelitis vaccination at that time have, in the vast majority of cases, failed to present themselves for booster doses, although warned at the time that a booster dose would be necessary, and although since invited by press advertisements, and other publicity, to do so. It is obvious that, apart from the one period mentioned, adults are quite willing to give consent for their children to be vaccinated against poliomyelitis, either at clinic or school, but are themselves quite unwilling to take the trouble to attend at clinic sessions arranged for them. In view of the tragically severe nature of the disease when it occurs in adults, this attitude of mind is, in my view, most unfortunate.

Of the cases of dysentery notified, 15 occurred in infants and one case in a member of the staff at a residential nursery, where such infections spread very rapidly. One case occurred in a child in the married quarters at a military barracks. Another case occurred in a child living on a caravan site. The remaining cases were sporadic ones, occurring mostly in children, in various parts of the District. Limited restrictions were imposed on the children affected. It is satisfactory to be able to record that no known spread of infection occurred in any of these cases.

The cases of food-poisoning were all sporadic ones. The germ responsible was isolated on only one occasion. As is the experience in sporadic outbreaks, the actual mode of infection could not be ascertained in any of these cases. Appropriate advice was given as to precautions necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

None of the other diseases of which cases were notified during the year were of any great epidemiological significance.

It is noteworthy that, for the tenth consecutive year, no case of either diphtheria or smallpox was notified. Freedom from smallpox in the District goes back much further than this, but freedom from diphtheria is relatively a new feature. One must again record that it is unfortunate that this experience has reduced the importance which the public now attaches to preventive measures used in connection with these diseases. It is also unfortunate that pressure of work in connection with poliomyelitis vaccination has inevitably interfered with our efforts to maintain a satisfactory state of immunisation amongst school-children. It is hoped that it will be possible to pursue this work vigorously again in the fairly near future.

TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of this disease are, as in previous years, given separately from those relating to other infectious diseases. The following table shows the number of new cases and of deaths from the disease in 1959, and also the age groups of the persons concerned :—

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—9 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—14 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—19 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—24 years	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—44 years	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—64 years	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 65 years	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Totals	8	8	—	—	4	1	—	—

It will be seen that the pulmonary form of tuberculosis affected three children under 5 years of age, five persons during adolescence or early adult life and two persons of over 55 years of age, all periods of special susceptibility to the disease. The involvement of four persons between 35 and 44 years of age is now a less common feature, and is in contrast to the figures for 1958, when only one person in this age-group was affected.

The complete absence of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was, of course, a very satisfactory part of the figures.

Of the five deaths which resulted from tuberculosis in 1959, it is noteworthy that three occurred in persons over 65 years. Neither these nor the two deaths occurring in younger persons were related in any way to recent infections. It is obvious that earlier diagnosis and more effective treatment than that formerly possible are now greatly reducing the mortality from tuberculosis among those recently infected, but that there is still a substantial amount of chronic infection in the community, mostly among older people, which is relatively resistant to treatment.

The following table sets out the figures of new cases and deaths from both pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis for the years since 1941 :—

YEAR	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1941	22	4	14	5
1942	12	6	14	7
1943	15	2	11	3
1944	21	4	14	2
1945	11	3	7	4
1946	19	6	11	2
1947	22	7	11	3
1948	22	6	6	1
1949	21	5	3	—
1950	20	12	5	2
1951	18	9	6	1
1952	24	10	3	2
1953	30	3	6	—
1954	37	7	9	1
1955	18	5	—	—
1956	18	3	—	—
1957	24	2	1	1
1958	14	4	2	—
1959	16	—	5	—

The figures show, at a glance, the measure of control over tuberculosis which has now been achieved. It will be seen that the number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis continues to fluctuate somewhat from year to year, but that the levels of the last two years are considerably below most of those previously recorded. The deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis have already been referred to. It remains only to say that, although mortality is still not negligible, it is considerably less than that prevailing up to about 5 years ago, and is occurring in circumstances which suggest that a further marked improvement in the figures will occur in the fairly near future. The complete absence of either cases or deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis is a very welcome feature of the figures, and demonstrates the advantages which are now being derived both from eradication of bovine tuberculosis from dairy cows and from heat-treatment of almost all milk produced in the District. As regards eradication of tuberculosis from dairy cows, it may be mentioned that, in spite of the rapid progress now being made towards the conclusion of the eradication scheme, the germs causing tuberculosis were found on two occasions during 1959 in milk produced in the

District. On the question as to whether heat-treatment of milk will still be necessary when the eradication scheme has been completed, it can only be said at present that it will be less necessary, but may still be considered desirable because of the other infections, apart from tuberculosis, which appear in milk from time to time.

Measures for limiting infection by prompt admission to hospital of infectious patients, examination of contacts and advice to both patients and contacts were continued as in previous years. Queries regarding disinfection by fumigation are received from time to time, but enquirers are told that this is not a necessary feature of modern methods of controlling the disease.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Arrangements continued during the year as outlined in previous reports.

ANTHRAX

Anthrax was suspected as the cause of illness of animals on five occasions during the year. The usual precautions were taken by the police in disposing of the carcasses of the animals affected. The disease was confirmed in two of the cases. No human illness due to this cause was reported during the year.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Arrangements continued as in previous years. The co-operation and technical advice received from the Public Health and County Chemical Laboratories was again much appreciated.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

Facilities remained the same as those available in previous years.

The shortage of beds for the treatment of the aged and chronic sick remained acute, and caused considerable hardship both to those on the waiting list for admission and to their relatives, who often had to look after them in very trying circumstances. The home-help and district nursing services were again used to the full in an effort to postpone the need for hospital admission, and to give such help as was possible during the period of waiting. Reports were again made where necessary in order to determine the persons who, by reason of home circumstances, were most in need of those beds available.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Here again, arrangements remained largely unchanged, the Council's application to be allowed to operate these services under the delegation arrangements laid down in the Local Government Act, 1958, having been rejected by the Ministry concerned.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No application was made during the year for compulsory transfer either to hostel or hospital on the grounds that a person was in need of care and attention that could only be secured by the use of such action.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Arrangements for the supervision of food premises continued unchanged, regular inspections being carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

The results of examination of milk for cleanliness, efficient pasteurisation, sterilisation and presence or absence of the germs causing tuberculosis were as follows :—

Grade of Milk	DETAILS (AND SIGNIFICANCE) OF TESTS							
	Meth. Blue (Cleanliness)		Phosphatase (Efficient Pasteurisa- tion)		Turbidity (Efficient Sterilisa- tion)		Biological (Tuber- culosis)	
	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Neg.	Pos.
T.T. ...	23	—	—	—	—	—	12	—
T.T. (Past.) ...	70	6	93	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised ...	59	2	78	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised ...	—	—	—	—	55	—	—	—
Totals ...	152	8	171	—	55	—	12	—

It will be seen that a number of samples failed to pass the test for cleanliness, the proportion so failing actually being rather larger than in the previous year. Action in relation to this matter is, of course, a matter for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It is more satisfactory to note that the results of all the other tests were satisfactory.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following information relating to sampling carried out by the County Council's Officers during 1959 :—

NATURE OF FOOD								NUMBER OF SAMPLES
MILK :								
Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculin Tested		..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculin Tested Channel Islands				..	..	..	..
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised				..	..	..	..
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86
GENERAL FOODS AND DRUGS :								
Apricots in Syrup, Almond Paste, Almond Flavoured Essence, Aspirin Tablets, Beechams Tablets, Black Pepper, Blackberries, Bitter Beer, Butter, Butter Short- cake, Caraway Seeds, Cascara Tablets, Cochineal Colouring, Cooking Fat, Corned Beef, Chorley Cakes, Chlorophyl Chewing Gum, Custard Powder, Demerara Sugar, Dates, Dairy Butter, Extra Strong Mints, Fruit Pie, Fruit Salad, Fish Paste (Pilchards and Tomato), Golden Raising Powder, Grill Sauce, Grapefruit in Syrup, Gravy Browning, Grapefruit Marmalade, Ground Almonds, Golden Butter Mints, Garibaldi Biscuits, Glucose Syrup, Health Salts, Irish Stew (2), Ice Cream (2), Juniper Pills, K Special High Protein Cereal, Kipper Snacks, Lard, Lemon Curd, Mandarin Oranges, Meat Paste (Liver and Bacon), Margarine, Mild Mustard, Minced Beef Loaf, Olive Oil, Pork Luncheon Meat (2), Pork Sausage (2), Puffed Wheat with Sugar and Honey, Picalilli, Pickled Onions, Pudding Mix, Pure Lard, Pilchards in Tomato, Pineapple in Syrup, Potted Salmon, Rice Pudding, Raspberries in Heavy Syrup, Raspberry Jam, Sugar, Salmon, Self-Raising Flour, Sild in Tomato, Sultana Pudding, Strawberries in Syrup (2), Sardines, Sweetened Lemon Glucose Drink, Skinless Pork Sausages (2), Sweet Cigarettes, Shredded Beef Suet, Tomato Juice, Table Jelly, Tea (3), Tomato Ketchup, Tincture of Iodine, Table Cream (Raspberry Flavour), Victoria Plums in Syrup, Vinegar, Zinc and Castor Oil, Whisky, Gin								91

One sample of milk was found to be deficient in fat. Arrangements were made for the system of topping up churns to be altered. The sample of health salts was found to be deficient in bicarbonate. This was old stock, which was removed from sale. The sample of glucose drink proved to be incorrectly described. As a result of action taken, the designation was changed. The first sample of Irish stew was found to be deficient in meat, but a repeat sample proved to be normal. The sample of almond paste was found to be deficient in quality. As it was a Christmas line, no further samples were available for examination.

WATER SUPPLY

It may be recalled that I reported last year that the Council had sought the views of other local authorities in the area covered by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company regarding the question of fluoridation of water supplies, that the majority of authorities were in favour, and that the Council had decided to pursue the matter with the Minister of Housing and Local Government. This approach did not lead to any tangible result, and the Council had, somewhat reluctantly, to leave the matter in abeyance for the time being.

HOUSING

In my report for 1958, I mentioned that the large number of Council houses completed in that year had enabled some inroads to be made on the waiting list for Council Houses, but that, in view of the curtailment of the Council's building programme, which took place in the later part of 1957, it appeared unlikely that the reduction in the waiting list would be continued in 1959. This forecast proved only too true, as shown by the following summary :—

Number of Families on Waiting List on 1st January, 1959	639
Number of Families Rehoused in New Houses during 1959 ..	26
Number of Families Rehoused in Relet Houses during 1959 ..	69
Number of Families on Waiting List on 31st December, 1959 ..	671

Under these circumstances, it is not surprising to have to report that, apart from some few who have found other accommodation for themselves, the families at The Square, Edingale, and at Colton, where statutory action was taken by the Council in 1955 and 1956, are still awaiting rehousing. The families at Pavior's Row, Hammerwich, where statutory action was taken in 1957, were more fortunate, most of the families being rehoused before the end of 1959. The delays experienced illustrate not only the effects of the financial crisis in the later part of 1957 but also, in greater degree, the difficulties encountered where clearance of houses depends on redevelopment of existing, but often difficult, sites. It is, of course, necessary, in framing slum clearance action, to balance the difficulty of redeveloping these sites, against the undesirability of leaving unsightly gaps in villages, while sacrificing additional farming land for housing. No doubt, in the long run, it is better to redevelop the existing sites, if the delays occasioned by so doing can be reduced to a minimum.

The following table shows the statutory action taken by the Council during 1959 in relation to houses unfit for human habitation :—

PROPERTY	STATUTORY ACTION
82-84 Chorley Road, Chase Terrace.	Clearance Order, 27th February.
19, 19a Bell's Lane, Chase Terrace.	Clearance Order, 27th February.
220-228 Rugeley Road, Burntwood.	Clearance Order, 24th April.
3 Union Street, Chasetown.	Undertaking Accepted, 27th November.
128-130 Main Street, Wigginton.	Undertaking Accepted, 27th November.
1-4 Canal Side, Hopwas.	Demolition Order, 23rd December.
Church Farm Cottage, Drayton Bassett.	Closing Order, 23rd December.
104 The Green, Burntwood.	Undertaking Accepted, 23rd December.

The number of houses, at 18, compares with figures of 8 in 1958, 34 in 1957, 22 in 1956 and 19 in 1955. The reduced number of houses dealt with in 1958 and 1959 was, of course, due to the slowing-down of the Council's building programme, already referred to, and, in particular, to the impossibility of rehousing families in Armitage and Alrewas, due to difficulty in obtaining housing sites, if statutory action had been undertaken. With increasing numbers of houses now approaching completion, the slum clearance programme is again being stepped up, and there is good reason to believe that the programme can now go forward more rapidly than in the period under review.

The Council again continued actively to encourage the improvement of privately owned houses by giving 37 discretionary and 21 standard improvement grants to the owners of houses eligible for such grants. Although this policy imposes some financial burden on the Council, and much work on the Council's Officers, it is felt that many useful improvements are, as a result, being achieved.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF
THE YEAR 1959 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF LICHFIELD IN THE COUNTY
OF STAFFORDSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act,
1937.

Part I of the Act.

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including
inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	NUMBER OF		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authori- ties	18	4	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	79	28	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding out-workers' premises)	34	14	—	—
TOTAL	131	46	2	—

Part 1 of the Act—continued

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

PARTICULARS (1)	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness ..	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperatures	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	2	—

Part VIII of the Act.

Outwork.
(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)	SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
	No. of Out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel } Making etc., Cleaning and Washing	1	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	—	—	—	—	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERS

(Prepared by Mr. J. G. RIMAND, M.I.Mun.E., Engineer and Surveyor.)

Generally throughout the District disposal works have been well maintained by the workmen employed by you. Final effluents have on the whole been generally of a better standard, no doubt due to the improvements and enlargement of certain of the existing works and the coming into operation of new works. With the proposals now in hand, this improvement should continue.

Alrewas.—The sewage disposal works at Alrewas is working satisfactorily but the flow from the Village continues to increase and as a result the works is now operating to capacity.

Proposals for extending this works will be prepared in the near future, and it appears likely that the negotiations for the cleaning out of the brookcourse will result in the work being put in hand during the coming year.

In the village of Fradley the general sewage system is unsatisfactory, and steps will have to be taken at a later date, either to connect to the Alrewas system or to provide a separate disposal works.

Armitage and Longdon.—The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for these parishes is working very satisfactorily. The small sewage disposal works at Armitage has had its reserve capacity absorbed and consideration has been given to its being replaced with a pumping plant, discharging into the new disposal works. Proposals for this will be prepared in due course.

Brindley Heath.—The new disposal works is working satisfactorily. The old works at Brindley Village has now been closed. The works at Penkridge Bank is working satisfactorily.

Burntwood.—The pumping station at Cannock Road is working satisfactorily, but the Peter's Lane disposal works is seriously overloaded and in need of enlargement, the chief problem being the large quantities of storm water and sludge that have to be dealt with.

The works at Chasetown to which minor improvements were carried out are working reasonably satisfactorily.

The Council have approved the preparation of proposals for the enlargement and modernising of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme in this Parish. A survey and investigations have been made covering the whole system, and a report together with recommendations for improvements approved. Preparation of working drawings are now in hand, and should be submitted to the Ministry during the coming year.

Clifton Campville.—The new works and sewerage system have been completed during the year and are now working satisfactorily.

Colton.—Conditions show little change in this Parish, but proposals for the new works and sewerage system are in hand, and it is hoped that a scheme should be submitted to the Ministry shortly.

Curborough and Elmhurst.—The pumping station and disposal works near to the outfall of the sewer near the Elmhurst portion of the parish has effected a considerable improvement.

Drayton Bassett.—The pumping station and disposal works are working satisfactorily. The general sewerage of the Village however, is unsatisfactory and a new scheme is in course of preparation and should be submitted to the Ministry during the coming year. The pumping station at Drayton Manor is working satisfactorily.

Edingale.—The small pumping station and disposal works which was constructed to deal with the Council houses is working satisfactorily.

The general sewerage system of the village, however, is most unsatisfactory, and steps will be taken at a very early date to prepare a proper scheme.

Farewell and Chorley.—The works dealing with the Council houses is working satisfactorily and provision is being made in the Burntwood Scheme for receiving the sewage from the rest of the Village.

Fazeley.—The sewage from Fazeley is dealt with by the Tamworth Joint Sewage Committee, passing from the main sewer in the Watling Street, under the canal to Tamworth. The pumping station at Brookend, Fazeley, is working satisfactorily, and the new pumping station and storage tank at Longwood is now completed and ready to be brought into use as soon as the houses are occupied.

Hammerwich.—The reconstruction and enlargement of the Watling Street disposal works was completed during the year and is working satisfactorily.

A scheme has been prepared to deal with Newtown which will mean the construction of a small disposal works and this is now ready for the obtaining of tenders, in order that the work may be carried out during the coming year.

The pumping station at Triangle is working satisfactorily.

Hamstall Ridware.—A scheme has been prepared for the sewerage of this Village, and it now appears likely that same will be carried out in the near future.

Harlaston.—The disposal works is working satisfactorily.

Hopwas.—These works, which were reconstructed before the war, are working satisfactorily.

Kings Bromley.—A scheme has been prepared for the sewerage of this Village and the construction of a small disposal works. It appears likely that it will be carried out in the near future.

Mavesyn Ridware.—The small pumping stations and disposal plants constructed in Hill Ridware and Blithbury in order to deal with the sewage from the Council houses are working satisfactorily. The preparation of the scheme for Hill Ridware is progressing and will be submitted to the Ministry during the coming year.

Shenstone.—The new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for the Village of Shenstone and the pumping stations at Lynn Lane and Woodend are working satisfactorily. The disposal works at Little Aston are giving a reasonable effluent despite the fact that they are seriously overloaded. The enlargement of this works, with a view to dealing with a portion of the Aldridge Urban District is proceeding, and will be completed during the coming year.

The disposal works at Stonnall are coping satisfactorily with the increased flow from the development now taking place in Stonnall, but some improvements will have to be carried out in the future to improve the fall through the works.

Streethay.—These works were reconstructed during the war in order to deal with the flow from the W.A.A.F. Camp. A modern bacteria bed and humus tanks have been provided, and these are working satisfactorily.

Swinfen and Packington.—The disposal works at Botany Bay, to deal with the Council housing estate is working very satisfactorily.

Wall.—The disposal works for this village is working satisfactorily. The Muckley Corner end of this Parish will, however, need attention in the future and will be dealt with in conjunction with the proposals that are being prepared to completing the sewerage system of the adjoining Village of Hammerwich as part of the Burntwood Scheme.

Whittington.—The disposal works in this village is working satisfactorily. Consideration, however, will have to be given in the not so distant future for the modernising of same. In the meantime, the new pumping plant is giving a very much improved service.

Wigginton.—Conditions, in the portion of Wigginton Village which is sewered are quite good, the disposal being carried out by the Tamworth Sewerage Joint Committee.

Elford, Gentleshaw, Hints and Weeford.—There is no change to report in the sewerage conditions existing in these parishes, which have been considered, along with the remainder of the district, by the Health Committee, to whom a report has been presented. This report makes certain recommendations as to the order of the priority in which the works detailed in it shall be carried out, and steps are being taken to implement the Committee's decision.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Lichfield Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting a record of the work undertaken by your Public Health Inspectors during the year 1959.

In my general comments on the Report I would, this year, like to place emphasis on the question of Improvement Grants as authorised under the Housing and House Purchase Act, 1959. These grants have been operated by the Council with excellent results since 1949, but whilst there has been a regular flow of applications over the past 10 years they have very largely been confined to owner-occupied houses. It is, I think, a great pity that the advantages of these grant aided improvement schemes are not taken up in larger numbers by owners of tenanted properties. I am confident that many tenanted houses could be brought up to modern standards by the installation of bathrooms, hot water systems and other amenities which they now lack, by the expenditure of quite a small amount of capital on the part of the owner.

Such expenditure is eligible for rent increase at 8%—in my view a very sound investment these days, particularly when such action not only prevents degeneration of the property but prolongs its life for many more years.

It is perhaps time that the results of this Act throughout the country should be closely examined and, if necessary local Councils be given power to enforce the modernisation of tenanted houses. I am sure that the waiting lists of applicants for new Council Houses contains many applicants desirous only of securing a house with modern amenities and who would be well satisfied with their existing houses if so modernised. There would also be a general running down during future years of the need for Councils to maintain a slum clearance programme with its ultimate high cost in the construction of replacement houses.

The year under review shows that your Inspectors again had a very full year in their duties on meat inspection, and whilst at the preparation of this report the position has eased a little, the situation must continue to be watched if the Council are to maintain 100% inspection of all meat slaughtered in the district.

Finally I am indebted to the Council, their Officers and Staff—particularly my colleagues in the Health Department—for their continued support and co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

GEORGE LEEDER,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

June, 1960.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

During the year a total of 6 samples of water supplies from domestic premises were submitted for both chemical and bacteriological examination.

In four cases the samples were taken from existing well supplies as a result of proposals to provide a mains extension. In each case the well supply was found to be unsatisfactory for domestic purposes, and at the end of the year agreements had been signed with the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company to undertake extensions to the mains which would enable each of the houses to be afforded a mains piped supply of water.

In the Report for 1958 mention was made of an unsatisfactory sample taken from farm premises remote from a mains supply. It has still not been possible to secure an alternative supply for domestic purposes and the warning, mentioned last year, that all water used for drinking purposes should be boiled, still continues.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

1st April, 1959—31st March, 1960.

(a) Refuse Collection and Disposal.

There has been an increasing demand for the very essential service of refuse collection due largely to the considerable number of new houses now being occupied throughout the District. This service is one that receives very few "bouquets," but the Council's employees in this work are to be congratulated on the fact that all the increasing demands placed on this service have been met without the necessity of increasing staff or vehicles which would materially increase the costs of the service. It is also a feature of the Council's service that it is maintained on a weekly basis.

The cost of the Service so far as can be ascertained pending balance of the Council's accounts for the year under review amounted to £27,283.

The approximate unit cost of collection and disposal was as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Net cost of collection per ton	1	5	2
Net cost of disposal per ton		2	1
Net cost of collection per 1,000 population ..	637	0	0
Net cost of disposal per 1,000 population ..	53	0	0
Net cost of collection per 1,000 premises ..	2,115	0	0
Net cost of disposal per 1,000 premises ..	177	0	0

As mentioned last year the Council have now brought into use a Bristol Duplex tracked machine for the purpose of control of refuse tips, and its operation has maintained the tips under very satisfactory conditions.

(b) Salvage.

The Council have continued to operate a Salvage Service for the collection and disposal of waste paper, rags and scrap metal.

The following table gives details of this service :—

Material	Weight				Income			Expenditure	Deficit				
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	77	1	0	0	486	18	3						
Scrap Metal	8	0	0	3	80	10	6						
Rags ..	1	1	0	16	8	9	2						
TOTAL	86	2	0	19	575	17	11	735	14	10	159	16	11

(c) “Keep Britain Tidy” Campaign.

During the year the Council authorised the provision of over 100 litter baskets for distribution throughout the villages in the District and a regular service of cleansing is maintained.

In addition the display of publicity material on all Council owned vehicles was undertaken.

HOUSING

Action in respect of the Council's programme of slum clearance showed an improvement as compared with the previous year.

A total of 18 houses were dealt with under the Council's 5-year programme as compared with 8 in 1958, and it is hoped that this rate of progress will be increased during the next year.

During 1959 a total of 258 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with matters requiring attention under the Housing Act, 1957.

(a) Housing Act, 1957—Section 16 (Demolition Orders).

Representations were considered by the Council in respect of 8 houses. Demolition Orders were made in respect of 4 of the houses and in the remaining 4 cases undertakings were accepted from the owners that the houses would not be used for human habitation until the Council, on being satisfied that they have been rendered fit for that purpose, cancel the undertakings.

(b) Housing Act, 1957—Section 17 (Closing Orders).

In one case the Council, after consideration of an Official Representation by the Medical Officer of Health, made a Closing Order in lieu of a Demolition Order due to the fact that it was inexpedient to be demolished because of its effect upon an adjoining house.

(c) **Housing Act, 1957—Section 42 (Clearance Areas).**

Following Official Representations by the Medical Officer of Health the Council submitted 3 Clearance Orders comprising a total of 9 houses for approval to the Minister of Housing and Local Government. The Orders were subsequently confirmed without modification.

(d) **Repairs to Houses.**

A total of 82 houses were repaired as a result of informal action. Formal action by means of the service of Notice under the Housing Act, 1957, or Public Health Act, 1936, secured the repair of a further 4 houses.

(e) **Rent Act, 1957—Certificates of Disrepair.**

Details of action taken during the year :—

PART 1—Applications for Certificate of Disrepair.

(i) Number of applications for certificates	5
(ii) Number of decisions not to issue certificates ..	Nil
(iii) Number of decisions to issue certificates :—	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects ..	4
(b) in respect of all defects	1
(iv) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	3
(v) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule ..	Nil
(vi) Number of Certificates issued	2

PART II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates.

(vii) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	9
(viii) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates ..	2
(ix) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections	Nil
(x) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	9

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

A further development in the endeavour to improve housing standards by means of grants was taken during the year by the introduction of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

This Act retains the existing system, with modification, of providing grants towards the cost of extensive improvements to houses having a maximum grant available of £400 at the discretion of the local authority. In addition a new system of "standard" grants are now available as of right for the provision of baths, water closets, hot water systems and certain other amenities in houses which at present lack them, the maximum grant available in these cases being £155.

The availability of these grants provide owners the opportunity of bringing their properties up to modern standard, particularly those houses which are soundly constructed but are lacking in amenities and therefore inconvenient for living in. Unfortunately owners of tenanted houses do not seem to be taking the fullest advantage of these grants. A great deal can be done by grant aided modernisation of houses to prevent their degeneration into conditions which must ultimately lead to demolition.

During the year a total of 89 visits were made by the Engineer and Surveyor and myself in order to inspect and advise on improvement grant proposals.

Details of applications received and the amount of grants authorised are as follows :—

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

APPLICATIONS				NUMBER GRANTED		Total Value of Works	Total Value of Grants
Rec'd.	No. of Houses	Refused	With-drawn	Owner/ Occup'r	Others		
40	44	3	Nil	20	17	£26,457 7s. 5d.	£11,550 9s. 1d.

STANDARD GRANTS

APPLICATIONS				NUMBER GRANTED		Total Value of Works	Total Value of Grants
Rec'd	No. of Houses	Refused	With-drawn	Owner/ Occup'r	Others		
21	21	Nil	Nil	12	9	—	£2,635

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The Council accepted delegated powers from the Staffordshire County Council in 1949.

It was not necessary to institute any formal proceedings during the year.

THEATRES AND CINEMAS

The Council have accepted delegated powers from the Staffordshire County Council as from 1st July, 1959, in respect of the licensing of Theatres and Cinemas. No licences had been issued up to the end of 1959.

RODENT CONTROL

The Service provided by the Council in respect of agricultural land continued during the year.

The general survey of the district was continued and a total of 116 premises, including 49 agricultural premises, were visited for this purpose.

During the year a total of 1,038 visits were made by the Council's Rodent Officer for all purposes of survey and treatment.

PETROLEUM CONSOLIDATION ACT, 1928.

As mentioned in the Report for 1958 the Council considered details of inspections, carried out in conjunction with Officers of the Staffordshire County Fire Brigade, of all premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit. The report contained a number of recommendations upon which the Council authorised the necessary action.

A total of 122 licences were issued in 1959 for the storage of petroleum spirit.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Two applications were received under the Clean Air Act in relation to the installation of new heating plant. In each case the installations were approved as being capable, so far as practicable, of continuous operation without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a type for which the plant was designed.

Co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in the investigation of atmospheric pollution has been continued throughout the year. The Council have three desposit gauges and three lead peroxide instruments sited in proximity to the new Power Station under construction at Armitage and each month the records obtained are sent to the Research Department.

The following tables give details of the records obtained during 1959 :—

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Table 1

DEPOSIT GAUGES—RECORDS OF DEPOSITS

Deposits in Tons per Square Mile per Month.

Month	Fair View, Handsacre	Sewage Works, Armitage	Chadwick Arms, Hill Ridware
January	10.84	7.60	10.27
February	7.70	5.16	5.98
March	15.27	10.50	10.63
April	7.64	8.55	7.70
May	8.20	6.59	5.95
June	9.14	7.40	11.32
July	8.57	6.45	5.99
August	11.61	5.54	4.33
September	5.45	3.91	3.77
October	9.44	9.06	5.95
November	9.14	8.95	10.41
December	8.24	8.88	10.95
Total	111.24	88.59	93.25
Monthly Average ...	9.270	7.383	7.771

Table 2

LEAD PEROXIDE GAUGES—RECORD OF SULPHUR POLLUTION

Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected—in milligrammes per 100 square centimetres per day.

Month	Fair View, Handsacre	Sewage Works, Armitage	Chadwick Arms, Hill Ridware
January	2.25	2.38	1.66
February	3.67	4.42	1.44
March	1.26	1.42	1.16
April	0.72	1.11	0.67
May	0.90	1.11	1.34
June	0.96	0.80	0.71
July	0.51	0.69	0.31
August	0.77	0.86	0.79
September	0.82	1.05	0.71
October	1.18	2.63	0.59
November	1.11	1.24	1.05
December	1.44	3.61	1.17
Total	15.59	21.32	11.60
Monthly Average ...	1.299	1.777	0.967

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

(a) Meat Inspection.

Meat inspection continued to be a major part of the duties of the Public Health Inspectors. As mentioned in the Report for 1958 the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, required the Council to submit to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, a report on—

(a) the existing and probable future requirements of the district for slaughterhouse facilities having regards to the needs both of persons requiring the use of such facilities and of other persons, and

(b) the slaughterhouse facilities which are or are likely to become available to meet those requirements.

The Council's Report to the Minister dated 19th January, 1960, indicated that there were 11 slaughterhouse premises in use at the present time but that at the "appointed day" when the Regulations will apply to all slaughterhouse premises in the District there are likely to be 9 such premises, and therefore the Council considered that there would be adequate slaughterhouse facilities available to meet existing and future requirements.

The existing slaughterhouse premises are situated in the following Parishes—

Burntwood	(5)
Hammerwich	(1)
Fazeley	(1)
Armitage	(2)
Alrewas	(2)

The observations of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the Report submitted are now awaited.

During the year the carcasses and offals of 63,990 animals were inspected, a slight reduction on the number inspected in the previous year. The amount of meat and offal condemned was nearly 54 tons. The number of animals inspected and the amount condemned each year since the control of livestock slaughtering ended in 1954 is—

		Animals inspected	Meat and offal condemned
1954	...	20,869	23 tons
1955	...	27,815	37 tons
1956	...	27,724	37 tons
1957	...	42,694	37½ tons
1958	...	61,984	57 tons

The following tables give details of the carcasses inspected and the total weight of condemned foods during the year :—

	CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS	HORSES
Carcasses inspected	4236	4244	1928	38062	15520	39
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	7	87	10	96	8	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	213	1496	7	716	885	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	5.19	37.29	.88	2.13	5.75	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	28	2	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	219	425	—	—	193	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	5.22	10.69	.11	—	1.24	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

DISEASED MEAT AND OFFALS

All Diseases, except Tuberculosis :					Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
CATTLE :	Carcase Meat	...			20	8	3	22
	Offals ...	...	...		14	9	2	10
CALVES :	Carcase Meat	...			—	8	1	20
	Offals ...	...	...		—	—	1	8
SHEEP :	Carcase Meat	...			1	11	3	25
	Offals ...	...	...		—	16	0	15
PIGS :	Carcase Meat	...			—	13	1	6
	Offals ...	...	...		—	18	2	24
Tuberculosis only :								
CATTLE :	Carcase Meat	...			9	16	0	10
	Offals ...	...	...		2	5	0	13
CALVES :	Carcase Meat	...			—	2	2	27
	Offals ...	...	...		—	—	1	9
SHEEP :	Carcase Meat	...			—	—	—	—
	Offals ...	...	...		—	—	—	—
PIGS :	Carcase Meat	...			1	18	1	13
	Offals ...	...	...		—	5	1	24
TOTAL					53	15	2	2

(b) Food of unsatisfactory quality.

During the early part of the year a complaint was received in the Department concerning a tin of peas which, when opened, was stated to have had a dragon fly inside the tin. The circumstances of the complaint, together with the observations of the manufacturers, were considered by the Health and Planning Committee who instructed that a strong warning should be issued to the manufacturers.

(c) Sale of Ice Cream.

There are 114 premises registered for the retail sale of Ice Cream.

Due to pressure of other work it was not possible to arrange for samples of Ice Cream to be submitted for bacteriological grading during the year.

(d) Food Hygiene.

The standard of hygiene in food premises generally continues to be most satisfactory. Apart from small items of decoration and disrepair there have been no major infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. During the year a total of 308 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors.

Meacham, Printer, Lichfield
